

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

February 28, 2001 LB 287

are kind of embarrassed to say that they've gone from, you know, an everyday normal life to this period of financial crisis. And because of the people who fall into this loophole category--the people who can't make the 20 percent or are going to have to reject the drug and get transplanted again, reject...if you don't take it and if you don't take the right amount, you risk the drug...or the organ being rejected. Some people do just like...we hear of stories of elderly people, don't take the right amount. They become sick and they may lose the transplant. They...also, another thing I heard is that when people die there's such a network of people who are facing these issues that they...and this isn't what they should do and it isn't condoned by anyone, but they'll take the medication that's left from the person who died and give it to another person to help them with their...spread out their medications and their costs. They...the people who work with these patients know that all this is going on and they see it as a terrible tragedy, but there...other states have dealt with this. One of them was telling me there was an older gentleman who wanted to move back to Nebraska.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time. Your light is one, Senator Beutler. You can continue please.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Please continue, Senator.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Wanted to move back to Nebraska to be close to his family, but our state doesn't have a way to assist with these costs so he's going to stay in Florida. So, you know, maybe that's a tragedy and maybe it isn't, but it's just another aspect of...of...by virtue of the fact that we aren't doing anything to help these people that are in these catch...little catchall situations that we have the sadness that's going on. And it's been building and other states have done it from day one through the renal program. We have never updated the drug formulary for the renal program.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I appreciate it. Thank you.

SENATOR THOMPSON: For...I'm sorry, I thought you were talking to me. We haven't updated the formulary. The intent of the